



St. John Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
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December 24, 2022

Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Christmas Eve Celebration Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

May God bless your worship with us today,

Paul Kruse, Pastor

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***Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live,
Learn, Share, and Serve***

*Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant
experience of Christian faith in our
community, to all generations, wherever
they may be'*

5:00 - Candlelight

Preparation

Preludes

"Hope Has A Name"

Breaking through the silence With glory in the highest
The hope of all creation Resting in his mother's arms

A song on the horizon Ringing through the heavens
The long-awaited Savior

Come to set the captives free

Come to set the captives free

Come set us free

Hope has a name Emmanuel

The Light of the World Who broke through the darkness

All hail the King Emmanuel

The Light of the World The Glory of Heaven

We didn't see it coming The story of redemption

What started in a manger Ended in an empty grave

Oh I know that

Hope has a name Emmanuel

The Light of the World Who broke through the darkness

All hail the King Emmanuel

The Light of the World The Glory of Heaven

Come if you're broken Come if you're searching

If you need healing He's where you find it

Lay down your burdens And breathe in forgiveness

If you need freedom Yeah He's where you find it

Oh if you need freedom Yeah He's where you find it

Yeah He's where you find it oh

Hope has a name Emmanuel

The Light of the World Who broke through the darkness

All hail the King Emmanuel

The Light of the World The Glory of Heaven

Hope has a name Emmanuel
The Light of the World Who broke through the darkness
All hail the King Emmanuel
The Light of the World The Glory of Heaven

CCLI Song # 7163645 Jacob Sooter | Kristian Stanfill | Sean Curran
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“Emmanuel! God With Us”

Go tell it on the mountain
The one that we've been waiting for
The King of our salvation
Born on this day our Savior Christ the Lord

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
That we can be forgiven
The weight of all our sin He came to bear

Emmanuel God with us Emmanuel King Jesus
The Savior of the world is born
Emmanuel God with us Emmanuel King Jesus
The Savior of the world is born

Go tell it on the mountain
Humbly in a manger lay
Mercy sent from heaven
Angels fill the sky with highest praise

Emmanuel God with us Emmanuel King Jesus
The Savior of the world is born
Emmanuel God with us Emmanuel King Jesus
The Savior of the world is born

Go tell it on the mountain
This baby born of virgin birth
The ruler of all nations
The glory of our God has come to earth

Emmanuel God with us Emmanuel King Jesus
The Savior of the world is born
Emmanuel God with us Emmanuel King Jesus
The Savior of the world is born
The Savior of the world is born
The Savior of the world is born

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“He Shall Reign Forevermore”

In the bleak mid-winter All creation groans
For a world in darkness Frozen like a stone
Light is breaking In a stable for a throne
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
Unto us a Child is born The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
If I were a wise man I would travel far
If I were a shepherd I would do my part
But poor as I am I will give to Him my heart
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
Unto us a Child is born The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
Here within a manger lies the One Who made the starry skies
This baby born for sacrifice Christ the Messiah
Into our hopes into our fears The Savior of the world appears
The promise of eternal years Christ the Messiah
He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore
He shall reign forevermore forevermore
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore

Unto us a Child is born
The King of kings and Lord of lords
And He shall reign forevermore forevermore

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Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

Opening Song

“Joy to the World”

Joy to the world, the Lord is Come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Hebrews 9:26

P As we prepare to celebrate our Lord’s birth, let us also remember the reason Jesus was born: “He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.” He has come to bring peace, yet not always in ways we can see in this world. He has come to bring hope, yet not always in ways we can see in ourselves in our thoughts, words, and actions.

He has come to bring love expressed in the forgiveness of sins and peace with our Father in heaven.

C We confess that we have sinned against God and against one another. We yearn for peace with God and reconciliation with one another, yet we cannot accomplish it ourselves. Forgive us, Lord, and restore our souls, that our lives would not reflect our sin, but the joy of the birth of Your only Son into the world.

A time of silent reflection

P Jesus – Savior. Immanuel – God with us. What we are powerless to do, He has done for us. Know the peace He has come to bring; live it with others and share it with all. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Song of Praise

“What Child is This?”

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet

While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the king,

Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate

Where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear; for sinners here

The silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce him through,

The cross be borne for me, for you.

Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;

come peasant king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings;

Let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song of high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

Psalm 89

P I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever;

C **with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.**

P For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;

C **in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."**

P You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

C **I have sworn to David my servant:**

P I will establish your offspring forever,

C **and build your throne for all generations."**

P Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,

C **your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!**

P For who in the skies can be compared to the Lord?

C **Who among the heavenly beings is like the Lord,**

P a God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones,

C **and awesome above all who are around him?**

P O Lord God of hosts,

C **who is mighty as you are, O Lord, with your faithfulness all around you?**

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Ⓟ The Lord be with you.

Ⓞ **And also with you.**

Ⓟ Let us pray together ...

Ⓞ **O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Christmas Eve Verse

P To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

C **and the government shall be upon His shoulder.**

P And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

C **Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P Sing to the Lord a new song,

C **for He has done marvelous things!**

P She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.

C **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1–20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

Children’s Message

Message Song

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains

refrain

*Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo*

Shepherd, why this jubilee? Why your joyous songs prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song? **refrain**

Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord the newborn King **refrain**

Message

“Glory of the Lord”

Offering

Would you like to give online? Scan the QR code and it will take you directly to our donation site.



Apostles' Creed

☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

☩ Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

☩ Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who

trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Carol for Candlelighting

“Silent Night”

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Blessing

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✕ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Song

“What A Glorious Night”

Oo oo ...
The shepherds came to see the baby, stood by His mother's side.
Here laid the Savior inside a manger. Oh what a glorious night!
Oh what a glorious night!

I hear the angels singin', "Hallelujah! Let the earth receive her King."
I know that love has come; sing it out: "Jesus Christ is born! Jesus Christ is born!"

Oo oo ...
The shepherds wondered; they couldn't hide it, told ev'ryone in sight.
All were amazed when they heard how God came down on the glorious night!

God came down on this glorious night!

I hear the angels singin', "Hallelujah! Let the earth receive her King."

I know that love has come; sing it out: "Jesus Christ is born! Jesus Christ is born!"

Glorious, glorious, what a glorious night!

Glorious, glorious, what a glorious night!

I hear the angels singin', "Hallelujah! Let the earth receive her King."

I know that love has come; sing it out: "Jesus Christ is born!"

I hear the angels singin', "Hallelujah! Let the earth receive her King."

I know that love has come; sing it out: "Jesus Christ is born!"

I heard that Jesus Christ is born!

Oo oo ...

All is calm now, all is quiet; a star shining in the sky.

Below, in Bethlehem, the King is sleeping.

Oh, what a glorious night! Oh, what a glorious night!

CCLI Song # 7002651 Ben McDonald | Casey Brown | David Frey | Jonathan Smith

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